SIX ORIGINAL SHORT FILMS
FROM SIX UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES:

AQSA ALTAF

HAO ZHENG

ANN MARIE PACE

STEFANIE ABEL HOROWITZ

JESSICA MENDEZ SIQUEIROS

MOXIE PENG

Disney
LAUNCHPAD
A SHORT FILM COLLECTION

Disney+

Original Short Films Streaming May 28

PRESENTS

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Written and Directed by ..... AQSA ALTAF
Produced by ..... LESLIE OWEN
STEAK HOUSE
Executive Producers ..... JULIE ANN CROMMETT
MAHIN IBRAHIM
ALYSSA NAVARRO
CHRIS CARABALLO
JASON ALVIDREZ
ADAM NUSINOW
MARY COLEMAN
NICOLE GRINDLE
VANESSA MORRISON
Director of Photography ..... SIDNEY UNGA
Production Designer ..... SARA MILLÁN
Film Editor ..... NICK HOUY
Casting by ..... JESSICA MUNKS, CSA
MICHAEL MORLANI, CSA

Unit Production Manager ..... STEAK HOUSE
First Assistant Director ..... KARIM NABIL
Second Assistant Director ..... JUSTIN MADRIAGA
Costume Designer ..... ARIYELA WALD-COHAIN
Music by ..... SIDDHARTHA KHOSLA

CAST

Ameena ..... SHANESSA KHAWAJA
Zainab ..... JENNA QURESHI
Tony ..... CASH HERRERA
Jamila ..... FAZEELAT ASLAM
Rachel ..... MAYA BEDNAREK
Chelsea ..... IRIS STARLETT PERRY
Mrs. Stone ..... HILARY WARD
Altaf ..... ISMAIL BASHEY
Litia ..... MIKEE CASTILLO
Teni ..... CHARLIE REDDIX
Mike ..... TYLER DAVID ALDERSON
Dadi Ami ..... RAHEELA "MAMA JEE" MAHMOOD
Art Teacher ..... MARK ANTHONY WILLIAMS
Cafeteria Lady ..... BARBARA BRAGG
Janitor ..... KAREN TELIHA
Mrs. Tan ..... SU JUNG LEE
Litia's Friend ..... AMBER DUKE

Associate Producer ..... ALEX COFFEY

Art Director ..... MAHNOOR EUCEPH
Lead Person ..... DOMINIC LEE
On Set Dressers ..... MATEO ARTURO
CESAR REYES

Set Dressers ..... EMMA BRADFORD
ROSS DAWSON
GRANT EBERT
JOYANNA HATCHER
ADITYA MOHITE

Key Costumer ..... LYDIA GRABOSKI-BAUER
Set Costumer ..... KERSTEN HAFF
Seamstress ..... MARIA GYZANDER

Makeup Dept. Head ..... TARA SEGAR
Key Makeup ..... KATE KLEIN
Makeup Artist ..... SANJANA SINHA
Hair Dept. Head ..... JUNIE KANG
Key Hair ..... CELESTE GONZALEZ

First Assistant Camera ..... TIFFANY NULL
Second Assistant Camera ..... FELIPE MIERES
Steadicam Operator ..... RYAN HANNAH
Crane Operator ..... DANIEL HAGOUEL
Camera Loader ..... MILANA BURDETTE

Script Supervisor ..... LORI FRANKLIN-GARCIA
Sound Mixer ..... CHRISTIAN LAINEZ
Boom Operator ..... PATRICK KENNEDY

Location Manager ..... HECTOR TINOCO
Assistant Location Manager ..... ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Environmental Steward ..... GALILEO PACIONI

Assistant Editor ..... LILLIAN PACHTER

Visual Effects Producer ..... JOEY BONANDER
Visual Effects Coordinator ..... RAVEN MIDKIFF
Visual Effects Artist ..... TOMASH KUZMYTSKYI

Visual Effects by
INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC
A LUCASFILM LTD. COMPANY

Visual Effects Supervisor ..... BETH D'AMATO
Visual Effects Producer ..... SHIVANI JHAVERI
Compositing Supervisor ..... TODD VAZIRI
Digital Artists ..... RYAN JONES
SHAWN MONAGHAN
Production Support ..... KAYLA LANE
ALLIE MOON
OLIVIA WONG
Visual Effects Editor ..... ERIK PAMPEL
Visual Effects Production Accountant ..... PAM SINSHEIMER

Post Production Sound Services
Provided by ..... FORMOSA GROUP
Supervising Sound Editor ..... STEFFAN FALESITCH
Re-Recording Mixers ..... EMILIE CORPUZ
ALEXANDRA FEHRMAN
Dialogue Editor ..... TAYLOR JACKSON
Sound FX/Foley Editor ..... JOSHUA ADENIJI
Foley ..... FOLEY WALKERS

Loop Group..... LOOP GROUP WEST
Virtual Collaboration Services by .....EVERCAST
HD Offline Editorial by .....RUNWAY EDIT

Chief Lighting Technician.....CHRIS GALDAMEZ
Assistant Chief Lighting Technicians ..... MICHAEL GALDAMEZ
ALBERT GONZALEZ
CHRIS GUERRERO
Set Lighting Technicians..... MORGAN ACKERMAN
RYAN JANSEN
MICHAEL VILLA

Key Grip ..... ANGEL VILLARREAL
Best Person Grips ..... MARCO GONZALEZ
TODD HUGHLETT
Grips ..... HANK BOLTON
SILVESTRE "SILVER" HERNANDEZ
GARRETT MOORE
GERARDO PAZ
BRANDON PIEDRA

Property Master..... FREDY FOOTE
Assistant Property Master .....KAROL NATALIA VENEGAS

SPFX Technician..... KEVIN DEE WATSON
SPFX Assistant Technician .....CHARLES MILLER

Production Coordinator ..... ALYSSA ULRICH
Production Secretary.....EMILY NOROVSAMBUU
Key Office Production Assistant..... ALEX CHERRY

Office Production Assistants

KYLIE ANDERSON — JOHN DEAL
KELLY CARITA FINN — CAREN "HALLI" LORENZATO
TIM MCQUAID — MELISSA SCICLUNA

Key Set Production Assistant .....KWESI SALMAN BAILEY

Set Production Assistants

ZAC BECKER — CHANDLER GHUMM
ADAM JORDAN — AHMED KHATER
OSIRIS LARKIN — MATTHEW NORMAN
MUNKHBAT NOROVSAMBUU — KACIE WACHENHEIM
CODY YENDELL — ROGER ZAMBRANO
ASHLYNN ZURILGEN

Assistant to Steak House ..... LAUREN GABREE

Studio Teacher (Cast)..... GUY FLINT
Studio Teachers (Background) ..... ALBERT BARRIENTOS
NICK DELGADO
SAMMY KLINE
NORA SHORE
Studio Teachers Provided by..... STELLA PACIFIC MANAGEMENT

Production Accountant ..... HEATHER TODARO
Payroll Accountant..... PHILLIP MEDRANO
First Accountant .....JOE B. HALL

Transportation Coordinator .....GENO HART
Transportation Captain..... JOHN BURISH
Transportation Co-Captain .... ALONZO "FONZI" COOK-SALDIVAR

Drivers

TRENTON HARA — JOHN E. HOLLAND
MICHAEL LUTZ — ANDASCHA "PANDA" MOOR-PRYOR
ROB MORTON — TRAVIS PHIPPEN
ALEJANDRO "ALEX" REYNOSO

Casting Assistants.....ALEXANDRA ALVAREZ
SKYLER ZURN
Casting Admin ..... GENE FELIX
Extras Casting..... CENTRAL CASTING

Health & Safety Manager ..... JY-AH MIN
Health & Safety Supervisor .....DEVON EDWARDS
Health & Safety Coordinators ..... TINA HARTELL
STEVEN MOLLER
Health & Safety Officer .....TEDDY WYNNE
Health & Safety Testing Assistants ..... JENNIFER FERNALD
ALLYSON BRAINARD SMITH

Health & Safety Monitors

SHANA BELTON — MATTHEW BURKE
NICOLE CASILLAS — NICHOLAS EROLIN
ARTHUR "QUINN" FERNANDEZ — CARLA JUAREZ
KUN-YU LAI — JOSHUAH NADIN
JOHN "HUNTER" VANDERZWAAG — BEN WU

Medic ..... ANGELICA SAAVEDRA
Caterer .....FULL MOON PICKLES & CATERING
Craft Service ..... TOSHA WILLIAMS

Music Supervisor..... LYNDSIE CHLOWITZ

Score Mixed by .....ALAN DEMOSS
Bouzouki, Percussion, Keyboards, Vocals .... SIDDHARTHA KHOSLA
Cello.....GINGER MURPHY
Guitar .....JUSTIN SMITH

"Beat the Bhangra"
Written and Performed by Kully B and Gussy G
Courtesy of Music of the Sea

Main Title Design by .....SARA MILLÁN AND FELIPE OROZCO
Title and Credits ..... REAL BY FAKE
Dailies/Digital Intermediate ..... COLOR 7
Colorist.....MARK SACHEN
Assistant Colorist..... RACHEL PEDROZA

The Filmmakers Wish to Thank:

SARAH ALAMMURI
NIDA AHMED
SAIMA FAHEEM
UMNA KHAN
JOHN X. CAREY
CASEY CAREY
AIDAN CAREY
IAN CAREY
MUBARAK ALTAF
MUSHRAF ALTAF
RUBINA ALTAF
JAMILA ALTAF
MOHAMMAD ALTAF

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Executive Originals, Disney+ ..... KAREN CHAU
Launchpad Executive ..... PHILLIP YAW DOMFEH
EVP, Casting ..... RANDI HILLER
SVP, Music ..... KAYLIN FRANK
Production Finance ..... BILL GRIEG
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Coordinator, Casting Administration ..... JACLYN GONZALES
Coordinator, Casting Administration ..... GENE FELIX
Administrator, Casting Administration ..... JOE ZARA
Assistant Editor - Thereafter,
Post Production ..... DAVID THOMASHOWER
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Security ..... REI REID
Security ..... ANDRES PETERSON
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Clearance Coordinator ..... LAUREN C. GENTILE
Executive, Clearances ..... TIM BALLOU
Music Legal & Business Affairs ..... MARC SHAW
Music Licensing & Clearance Specialist ..... SHII-JEAN SIKURA
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Coordinator, Publicity ..... LINDSAY ALTSTADT
Visual Communications Executive ..... JEREMY COHEN
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Manager, Production Technology ..... MELISSA PADRON
Manager, Technical Services & Support ..... HAGOP YAGLIAN
Technical Support Engineer ..... GABY RAMIREZ
Technical Support Engineer ..... TOMAS ALVAREZ
Coordinator, Production Technology ..... KEVIN STERN
Manager, Production Technology Ops ..... GERMAIN BACON
Manager, Image Color & Display Pipeline ..... JD VANDENBERG
SVP, Marketing ..... SAMANTHA ROSENBERG
VP, Creative Print Services ..... KARI MILLER
Executive, Creative Print Services ..... JESS LINARES
Executive, Marketing ..... ANASTASIA ALI
Executive, Creative Advertising ..... KYLE RODRI
Manager, Creative Advertising ..... CASEY FLETCHER
Manager, Marketing ..... NICOLE ROBERTS
Coordinator, Creative Print Services ..... MICHAELA MUCHA
Assistant, Marketing ..... CORA SEELMAN

SPECIAL THANKS

GINA AARNIOKOSKI
ASAD AYAZ
SEAN BAILEY
BARDIA BAKHTARI
ALAN BERGMAN
STACY BISSELL
TESSA BLAKE
LYNWEN BRENNAN
BROOKE BUTNER
RAY CALDITO
AGNES CHU
JAN COLEMAN
DAN DAVIDSON
KARMEN FOX
RALPHIE GIRON
LEIZA GREENWOOD
BEN HAVIE
RYAN HOPMAN
ALAN HORN
MICHELLE KAMME
JERRY KETCHAM
MASSI KHODAYARI
MITCHELL LEIB
JANET LEWIN
ALI LEWIS
GABE LEWIS
MALLORY LEEPER
GRETCHEN LIBBY
TODD LONDON
K.C. MARSH
MICHAEL MUSGRAVE
TINA NEWMAN
PAIGE OLSON
DREW RICHARDSON
JOENIQUE ROSE
MICHAEL ROSENFELD
ANDREW ROXAS
KELLY RUTTA
JESSICA SHOER
MIMI STEELE
PAUL STEINKE
PHILIP STEUER
LAILA STROBEN
CATHLEEN TAFF
DAVID TARITERO
ALICE TAYLOR
LAURA THOMASIAN
PAIGE TOWNSEND
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DINNER IS SERVED

Directed by ..... HAO ZHENG
Written by ..... G. WILSON
& HAO ZHENG
Produced by ..... SHINCY LU
STEAK HOUSE
Executive Producers..... JULIE ANN CROMMETT
MAHIN IBRAHIM
ALYSSA NAVARRO
CHRIS CARABALLO
JASON ALVIDREZ
ADAM NUSINOW
JESSICA VIRTUE
RACHEL YEUNG
Director of Photography ..... ZILONG LIU
Production Designer ..... DORIANE DESFAUGERES
Edited by ..... MATTHEW FRIEDMAN, ACE
Casting by ..... JESSICA MUNKS, CSA
MICHAEL MORLANI, CSA

Unit Production Manager ..... STEAK HOUSE
First Assistant Director ..... LISA CHU
Second Assistant Director ..... ELLEN ROSENTRETER
Costume Designer ..... LYNN OLLIE
Music by..... XUERAN CHEN

CAST

Xiaoyu..... QI SUN
Mei..... BRIANA LIU
Gang ..... BEN WANG
Allen ..... HARRY JARVIS
Headmaster Gustafson..... RAY WISE
Randall ..... DEJEAN BROWN
Mother ..... LEANN LEI
Guy..... TY DORAN
Mr. Mayer..... DEACON LEDGES
Mr. Williamson ..... JIM NIEB
Mrs. Gustafson..... JUDY KAIN
Mr. Johnson ..... DAVID CHATTAM

Associate Producer..... CARLO FIORIO

Art Director..... LAURA SANTOYO
On Set Dresser..... ARI WARD

Set Dressers

TOMAS GOMEZ BUSTILLO
CONNOR HADDAD
PATTY LIN
SARAH NORRBOM
SHANE CHARLES SOURGOSE
QUITON GIPSON
ADAM KASSEL
LUIGY PORTILLO MALDONADO
SOFIA RIBIERO
DIEGO FELIPE TORRES

Key Costumer..... NAN ZHOU
Set Costumers ..... ASIA LEE
FELICIA DESOUZA

Makeup Dept. Head..... KELLY MOUNG PARK
Makeup ..... CELINA DALNIM YUN
Hair Dept. Head..... AKIHIRO SAWADA
Hairstylists..... KATE LOFTIS
ALISSA GOETZ

First Assistant Camera..... CARLOS LOPEZ
MINAMI MORIYAMA
RUBY PAIVA
Second Assistant Camera..... KYAH COOK
GABRIEL LEE
"B" Camera Operator ..... ROBERT NACHMAN
Camera Loader..... MILANA BURDETTE

Script Supervisor..... LORI FRANKLIN-GARCIA
Sound Mixer ..... CHRISTIAN LAINEZ
Boom Operator ..... BRIAN SLY

Location Manager..... HECTOR TINOCO
Assistant Location Manager ..... ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Layout Board Techs ..... ALEXANDER GARCIA
CHRISTIAN A. GARCIA
Sanitizing Tech..... GILBERT PEREZ
Environmental Steward ..... GALILEO PACIONI

Assistant Editor ..... GUANGWEI "APRIL" DU

Visual Effects Producer ..... JOEY BONANDER
Visual Effects Coordinator ..... RAVEN MIDKIFF

Visual Effects by
INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC
A LUCASFILM LTD. COMPANY

Visual Effects Supervisor ..... BETH D'AMATO
Visual Effects Producer ..... SHIVANI JHAVERI
Compositing Supervisor..... TODD VAZIRI
Storyboard Artist..... TYLER SCARLET
Digital Artist ..... RYAN JONES
Production Support..... KAYLA LANE
ALLIE MOON
OLIVIA WONG
Visual Effects Editor ..... ERIK PAMPEL
Visual Effects Production Accountant ..... PAM SINSHEIMER

Post Production Sound Services
Provided by..... FORMOSA GROUP
Supervising Sound Editor ..... CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ

Re-Recording Mixers ..... PENNY HAROLD
EMILIE CORPUZ
Dialogue Editor ..... TAYLOR JACKSON
Sound FX/Foley Editor ..... JOSHUA ADENIJI
Foley ..... FOLEY WALKERS
Loop Group ..... LOOP GROUP WEST
Virtual Collaboration Services by ..... EVERCAST
HD Offline Editorial by ..... RUNWAY EDIT

Chief Lighting Technician ..... IAN CARRE-BURRITT
Assistant Chief Lighting Technician ..... RAYMOND MANZO
Set Lighting Technicians ..... JUNFU WEI
CHRIS GUERRERO
ALBERTO TAPIA
Balloon Technician ..... MICHAEL ZOGLEMAN

Key Grip ..... ADRIAN ESTRELLA
Best Person Grip ..... STEVE FORBES
Dolly Grip ..... TIM CHAPIN
Key Rigger ..... AGYEMAN JOHNSON
Grips ..... DANIEL GUTIERREZ
JACOB PEREIRA

Property Master ..... JOLENE ZHAO
Assistant Property Master ..... MENGQUIN YUAN

Production Coordinator ..... ALYSSA ULRICH
2nd 2nd Assistant Director ..... AMANDA "STEVIE" BOISSELLE
Production Secretary ..... MONICA BELMONTES-NINO
Key Office Production Assistant ..... ALEX CHERRY
Office Production Assistants ..... JOHN DEAL
CAREN "HALLI" LORENZATO
MELISSA SCICLUNA

Assistant to Steak House ..... LAUREN GABREE
Assistant to Yuhaojie "Hao" Zheng ..... ASHER JELINSKY

Construction Coordinator ..... CODEE HUTCHINS
Carpenter ..... RICHARD TRANLEY
Set Painter ..... KEVIN LOWRY

Key Set Production Assistant ..... ADAM JORDAN

Set Production Assistants

ZAC BECKER — DANIELA DEL REY
MARISSA ERICKSON — KELLY CARITA FINN
CONNYE GARRETT — CHANDLER GHUMM
ANDREW HAN — AHMED KATER
KACIE WACHENHEIM — ROGER ZAMBRANO

Production Accountant ..... HEATHER TODARO
Payroll Accountant ..... PHILLIP MEDRANO
First Accountant ..... JOE B. HALL

Transportation Coordinator ..... GENO HART
Transportation Captain ..... JOHN BURISH
Transportation Co-Captain .... ALONZO "FONZI" COOK-SALDIVAR
Drivers ..... ALEJANDRO "ALEX" REYNOSO
TRENTON HARA

Casting Assistants ..... ALEXANDRA ALVAREZ
SKYLER ZURN
Extras Casting ..... TIFFANY CAPRINE

Health & Safety Manager ..... JY-AH MIN
Health & Safety Supervisor ..... DEVON EDWARDS
Health & Safety Coordinator ..... TINA HARTELL
Health & Safety Officer ..... JAMES SHIH

Health & Safety Monitors

SHANA BELTON — MATTHEW BURKE
NICOLE CASILLAS — JENNIFER FERNALD
ARTHUR "QUINN" FERNANDEZ — KUN-YU LAI
ALLYSON BRAINARD SMITH — JOHN "HUNTER" VANDERZWAAG
BEN WU

Medic ..... ANGELICA SAAVEDRA
Caterer ..... FULL MOON PICKLES & CATERING
Craft Service ..... TOSHA WILLIAMS

Music Supervisor ..... LYNDSIE CHLOWITZ

Violin ..... STEVE C. CHIU
Cello ..... RO ROWAN
Guitar ..... JUSTIN SMITH

"Island"
Music by Xueran Chen, Lyrics by Shincy Lu
Performed by Xueran Chen
Mixed at NEM Studios

Title and Credits ..... REAL BY FAKE
Dailies/Digital Intermediate ..... COLOR 7
Colorist ..... MARK SACHEN
Assistant Colorist ..... RACHEL PEDROZA

DISNEY LAUNCHPAD TEAM

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Executive Originals, Disney+ ..... KAREN CHAU
Launchpad Executive ..... PHILLIP YAW DOMFEH
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SVP, Music ..... KAYLIN FRANK
Production Finance ..... BILL GRIEG
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Legal Counsel ..... ALISON ZIFFREN
Legal Affairs ..... SPENCER FIOCK
Sr. Paralegal ..... RUTHIE CWIK
Executive, Casting Administration ..... JOSE ALVAREZ
Coordinator, Casting Administration ..... JACLYN GONZALEZ
Coordinator, Casting Administration ..... GENE FELIX
Administrator, Casting Administration ..... JOE ZARA
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Post Production ..... DAVID THOMASHOWER
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Security ..... REI REID
Security ..... ANDRES PETERSON
Sr. Manager, Business Operations ..... KELLY HOLTER
Executive, Asset Management ..... KEVIN FITZPATRICK
Manager, Asset Management ..... TIFFANY LANIER
Coordinator, Asset Management ..... ALEX MELACHRINOS
Sr. Clearance Specialist ..... JESSICA CLARK
Clearance Coordinator ..... LAUREN GENTILE

Executive, Clearances ..... TIM BALLOU
Music Legal & Business Affairs ..... MARC SHAW
Music Licensing & Clearance Specialist..... SHII-JEAN SIKURA
Sr. Production Financial Analyst..... AMANDA OBERG
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Coordinator, Publicity ..... LINDSAY ALTSTADT
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BTS Producer/Executive ..... CAMERON SNELL
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Sr. Counsel, Labor Relations ..... JORJA CIRIGLIANA
Executive, Production Technology ..... JOSH HAYNIE
Manager, Production Technology..... MELISSA PADRON
Manager, Technical Services & Support ..... HAGOP YAGLIAN
Technical Support Engineer ..... GABY RAMIREZ
Technical Support Engineer ..... TOMAS ALVAREZ
Coordinator, Production Technology..... KEVIN STERN
Manager, Production Technology Ops ..... GERMAIN BACON
Manager, Image Color & Display Pipeline ..... JD VANDENBERG
SVP, Marketing..... SAMANTHA ROSENBERG
VP, Creative Print Services ..... KARI MILLER

Executive, Creative Print Services ..... JESS LINARES
Executive, Marketing..... ANASTASIA ALI
Executive, Creative Advertising ..... KYLE RODRI
Manager, Creative Advertising..... CASEY FLETCHER
Manager, Marketing..... NICOLE ROBERTS
Coordinator, Creative Print Services..... MICHAELA MUCHA
Assistant, Marketing ..... CORA SEELMAN

SPECIAL THANKS

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ASAD AYAZ
SEAN BAILEY
BARDIA BAKHTARI
ALAN BERGMAN
STACY BISSELL
TESSA BLAKE
LYNWEN BRENNAN
BROOKE BUTNER
RAY CALDITO
AGNES CHU
JAN COLEMAN
DAN DAVIDSON
KARMEN FOX
RALPHIE GIRON
LEIZA GREENWOOD
RYAN HOPMAN
ALAN HORN
MICHELLE KAMME
JERRY KETCHAM
MASSI KHODAYARI
MITCHELL LEIB
JANET LEWIN
ALI LEWIS
GABE LEWIS
MALLORY LEEPER
GRETCHEN LIBBY
TODD LONDON
K.C. MARSH
MICHAEL MUSGRAVE
TINA NEWMAN
PAIGE OLSON
DREW RICHARDSON
JOENIQUE ROSE
MICHAEL ROSENFELD
ANDREW ROXAS
KELLY RUTTA
JESSICA SHOER
MIMI STEELE
PAUL STEINKE
PHILIP STEUER
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Produced by ..... GENEVA FAYE
MELODY SANDOVAL
STEAK HOUSE
Executive Producers ..... JULIE ANN CROMMETT
MAHIN IBRAHIM
ALYSSA NAVARRO
CHRIS CARABALLO
JASON ALVIDREZ
ADAM NUSINOW
OSNAT SHURER
HALIMA HUDSON
Director of Photography ..... IDAN MENIN
Production Designer ..... NAOMI GONZALEZ KAHN
Edited by ..... RYLAN RAFFERTY
Casting by ..... JESSICA MUNKS, CSA
MICHAEL MORLANI, CSA

Unit Production Manager ..... STEAK HOUSE
First Assistant Director ..... KARIM NABIL
Second Assistant Director ..... JUSTIN MADRIAGA
Costume Designer ..... LAURA CRISTINA ORTIZ
Original Score Composed by ..... ADRIANNE GONZALEZ

CAST

Val Garcia ..... KEYLA MONTERROSO MEJIA
Lupe Garcia ..... CRISTELA ALONZO
Elsie ..... GRACE SONG
Dora ..... OLIVIA SULLIVENT
Jimmy ..... GILBERTO ORTIZ
Danny Garcia ..... SEAN BURGOS
Cuca Garcia ..... TERRI HOYOS
Javier Garcia ..... YONAS KIBREAB
Nurse Sherri ..... ZAINAB JOHNSON
Mimi ..... MIRELLE SOPHIA
Niki ..... NICOLE GOOSBY

Stunt Coordinator ..... LARRY ROSENTHAL
Stunt Double – Val Garcia ..... VAIA ZAGANAS
Key Stunt Rigger ..... LANE LEAVITT
Stunt Riggers ..... JENA CARPENTER
DUSTIN COURTNEY
Green Suits ..... JOSEPH COLUCCI
DAVID ROWDEN JR.

Associate Producer ..... ALEX COFFEY

Art Director ..... JUSTIN O'BRIEN
Set Decorator ..... IRENE JISU JEONG
On Set Dresser ..... WES DUNLAP

Costume Supervisor ..... MANDY PAULINE
Set Costumer ..... ROSALYN ISIDRO
Costume Illustrator ..... BARBRA ARAUJO
Additional Costumers ..... DION DEMESTRIES
WENDY SONALI
Ager/Dyer ..... MEARYGRACE GATO

Makeup Dept. Head ..... TARA SEGAR
Key Makeup ..... KATE KLEIN
Makeup ..... MANDY ARTUSATO
ALISHA BAIJOUNAS
MELISSA JIMENEZ
Hair Dept. Head ..... JUNIE KANG
Key Hair ..... CELESTE GONZALEZ
Hairstylists ..... AMANDA BOURNE
JEANETTE KASKUSKA

First Assistant Camera ..... EMILY AMOS
AARON CHEUNG
Second Assistant Camera ..... ILIANA IPES
B Camera Operator ..... NATASHA MULLAN
Steadicam Operator ..... AVERY RAMIREZ
Still Photographer ..... ANNE MARIE FOX
Camera Loader ..... MILANA BURDETTE

Script Supervisor ..... BRUCE RESNIK
Sound Mixer ..... CHRISTIAN LAINEZ
Boom Operator ..... PATRICK KENNEDY

Location Manager ..... HECTOR TINOCO
Assistant Location Manager ..... ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Environmental Steward ..... GALILEO PACIONI

Assistant Editor ..... DIANA YIP

Visual Effects Producer ..... JOEY BONANDER
Visual Effects Coordinator ..... RAVEN MIDKIFF

Visual Effects by
INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC
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Visual Effects Supervisor ..... BETH D'AMATO
Visual Effects Producer ..... SHIVANI JHAVERI
Compositing Supervisor ..... TODD VAZIRI

Storyboard Artist . . . . . TYLER SCARLET

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LANCE BAETKEY — RINO GEORGE
TREVOR HAZEL — SHAWN MONAGHAN
BRIAN SCHULTZ — KAITLYN WILLIAMS

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OLIVIA WONG
Visual Effects Editor . . . . . ERIK PAMPEL
Visual Effects Production Accountant . . . . . PAM SINSHEIMER
Additional Visual Effects by . . . . . STEREO D

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Re-Recording Mixers . . . . . LINDSEY ALVAREZ
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Sound FX/Foley Editor . . . . . JOSHUA ADENIJI
Foley . . . . . FOLEY WALKERS
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BROCK KINGSLAND

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Best Person Grip . . . . . ANNIE DEAN-GANEK
Dolly Grip . . . . . COLIN ANGLE
Grips . . . . . TRAVIS KRUKENBERG
CARLOS ORTEZ

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Office Production Assistants . . . . . KELLY CARITA FINN
CAREN "HALLI" LORENZATO
TIM MCQUAID
MELISSA SCICLUNA

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KWESI SALMAN BAILEY — ZAC BECKER
STEPHANY CHRISTIE — JUSTYN CORTES
NATHAN BRYAN ENGEL-HOLMES — MARISSA ERICKSON
CHANDLER GHUMM — ANDREW HAN
DAVID HOWARD — CONNOR KELLY-EIDING
MUNKHBAT NOROVSAMBUU — KACIE WACHENHEIM
TILER WILSON — ROGER ZAMBRANO
ASHLYNN ZURILGEN

Assistant to Steak House . . . . . LAUREN GABREE

Painters . . . . . CODY ANDERSEN
AARON LYONS
Art Department Coordinator . . . . . ARKESH AJAY
Assistant Art Department Coordinator . . . . . GINEVRA LOMBARDO

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Transportation Coordinator . . . . . GENO HART
Transportation Captain . . . . . JOHN BURISH
Transportation Co-Captain . . . . ALONZO "FONZI" COOK-SALDIVAR

Drivers

MANUEL ANGUIANO — GINA DESTITO
CHEVIS GOMEZ — HECTOR GONZALEZ
TRENTON HARA — JOHN E. HOLLAND
MICHAEL LUTZ — ANDASCHA "PANDA" MOOR-PRYOR
ROB MORTON — TRAVIS PHIPPEN
ALEJANDRO "ALEX" REYNOSO — JORGE ROJAS

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SKYLER ZURN
Casting Admin . . . . . GENE FELIX
Extras Casting . . . . . TIFFANY CAPRINE

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Health & Safety Supervisor . . . . . DEVON EDWARDS
Health & Safety Coordinators . . . . . TINA HARTELL
STEVEN MOLLER
Health & Safety Officer . . . . . TEDDY WYNNE
Health & Safety Testing Assistants . . . . . JENNIFER FERNALD
ALLYSON BRAINARD SMITH

Health & Safety Monitors

SHAUN ALLEN — SHANA BELTON
NICOLE CASILLAS — NICHOLAS EROLIN
ARTHUR "QUINN" FERNANDEZ — ALETHEA GEGES
DAMIAN GORDON — HIROSHI IGAKI
CARLA JUAREZ — JOSHUA NADIN
EIKA PENDERGRAFF — GABRIEL TOYA-MELENDEZ
BEN WU

Medics . . . . . ISAAC SALAZAR
GUNNER ALVES
Caterer . . . . . FULL MOON PICKLES & CATERING
Craft Service . . . . . TOSHA WILLIAMS

Music Supervisor . . . . . LYNDSIE CHLOWITZ

Guitars by . . . . . ROD CASTRO
Recorded at . . . . . SU SU STUDIO
Additional Score by . . . . . LILY BURNS
Musician Contractor . . . . . TIMOTHY LOO
Sabron . . . . . TOMMY JOHNSON

"Medio Vivo"
Written, Produced and Performed by AG

"Capricho del Diablo"
Written by Lizette Gutierrez
Performed by San Cha
Courtesy of San Cha LLC

"Fantasmas"
Written by Ambar Cruz, Jack Brady, Jordan Roman
Performed by Ambar Lucid
Courtesy of Premier Music by Arrangement with
The Greater Goods Co.

"Untitled"
Written by Sade Sanchez, Irita Yuchen Pai,
Ellie Lardinois English
Performed by L.A. Witch
Courtesy of Suicide Squeeze Records

"Story To Tell"
Written by Ambar Cruz, Jack Brady, Jordan Roman
Performed by Ambar Lucid
Courtesy of Premier Music by Arrangement with
The Greater Goods Co.

"1 4 2"
Written by Pablo Sotelo, Jean Pierre Narvaez,
Elijah Dutile Trujillo
Performed by Inner Wave
Courtesy of Inner Wave Group LLC

"Mica Fight"
Written by Marius de Vries

"A Letter To My Younger Self"
Written by Ambar Cruz

Title and Credits ..... REAL BY FAKE
Dailies/Digital Intermediate ..... COLOR 7
Colorist ..... MARK SACHEN
Assistant Colorist ..... RACHEL PEDROZA

DISNEY LAUNCHPAD TEAM

VP Originals, Disney+ ..... SARAH SHEPARD
Executive Originals, Disney+ ..... KAREN CHAU
Launchpad Executive ..... PHILLIP YAW DOMFEH
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Legal Counsel ..... ALISON ZIFFREN
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Assistant Editor - Thereafter,
Post Production ..... DAVID THOMASHOWER
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Security ..... ANDRES PETERSON
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Sr. Analyst, Risk Management ..... JENNIFER DOMINGUEZ
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Executive, Communications ..... JANELLE TIPTON
EVP, Global Publicity ..... MICHELLE SEWELL
VP, Global Publicity ..... RAYNA SCHWARTZ
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Publicist, Disney+ ..... KELSIE BOUDREAU
Coordinator, Publicity ..... LINDSAY ALTSTADT
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Technical Support Engineer ..... TOMAS ALVAREZ
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Manager, Production Technology Ops ..... GERMAIN BACON
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Manager, Marketing ..... NICOLE ROBERTS
Coordinator, Creative Print Services ..... MICHAELA MUCHA
Assistant, Marketing ..... CORA SEELMAN

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LESLEY ALLERY
ASAD AYAZ
SEAN BAILEY
BARDIA BAKHTARI
ALAN BERGMAN
STACY BISSELL
TESSA BLAKE
LYNWEN BRENNAN
BROOKE BUTNER
RAY CALDITO
AGNES CHU
JAN COLEMAN
DAN DAVIDSON
KARMEN FOX
RALPHIE GIRON

LEIZA GREENWOOD
BEN HAVIE
RYAN HOPMAN
ALAN HORN
MICHELLE KAMME
JERRY KETCHAM
MASSI KHODAYARI
MITCHELL LEIB
JANET LEWIN
ALI LEWIS
GABE LEWIS
MALLORY LEEPER
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KELLY RUTTA
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ALICE TAYLOR
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Produced by ..... SYDNEY FLEISCHMANN
STEAK HOUSE
Executive Producers ..... JULIE ANN CROMMETT
MAHIN IBRAHIM
ALYSSA NAVARRO
CHRIS CARABALLO
JASON ALVIDREZ
ADAM NUSINOW
GRANT CURTIS
Director of Photography ..... MATTHEW POTHIER
Production Designer ..... JULIANA BARRETO BARRETO
Edited by ..... STEPHANIE KAZNOCHA
Casting by ..... JESSICA MUNKS, CSA
MICHAEL MORLANI, CSA

Unit Production Manager ..... STEAK HOUSE
First Assistant Director ..... KARIM NABIL
Second Assistant Directors ..... ERICA EDEN
ASHLYNN ZURILGEN
Costume Designer ..... CIARA WHALEY
Music by ..... TANGELENE BOLTON

CAST

Avalon ..... OTMARA MARRERO
Noah ..... DASH MCCLOUD
Dad ..... GREG WORSWICK
Papá ..... MIKE MILLAN

Associate Producer ..... ALEX COFFEY

Set Decorator ..... DANNA MCDONALD
Set Dressers ..... GABRIEL BRUCE
CONNOR HADDAD
SHANE CHARLES SOURGOSE

Makeup Dept. Head ..... MARYANN YEE
Makeup ..... ADA TRINH
Hair Dept. Head ..... CELESTE GONZALEZ

First Assistant Camera ..... MIKE JUSTIN
ADAM KATZNER
Second Assistant Camera ..... HANNAH CARPENTER
Camera Loader ..... MILANA BURDETTE

Script Supervisor ..... BRUCE RESNIK
Sound Mixer ..... CHRISTIAN LAINEZ
Boom Operator ..... PATRICK KENNEDY

Location Manager ..... HECTOR TINOCO
Assistant Location Manager ..... ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Environmental Steward ..... GALILEO PACIONI

Assistant Editor ..... CLARENCE DENG

Visual Effects Producer ..... JOEY BONANDER
Visual Effects Coordinator ..... RAVEN MIDKIFF
Visual Effects Artist ..... FUMI MASHIMO

Post Production Sound Services Provided by .... FORMOSA GROUP
Supervising Sound Editor ..... PENNY HAROLD
Re-Recording Mixers ..... LARRY BENJAMIN
EMILIE CORPUZ
Dialogue Editor ..... TAYLOR JACKSON
Sound FX/Foley Editor ..... JOSHUA ADENIJI
Foley ..... FOLEY WALKERS
Virtual Collaboration Services by ..... EVERCAST
HD Offline Editorial by ..... RUNWAY EDIT

Chief Lighting Technician ..... COLE PISANO
Assistant Chief Lighting Technician ..... CHRIS GUERRERO
Set Lighting Technicians ..... COREY GIANNANTONIO
JUNFU WEI

Key Grip ..... ROB CAMPOY
Best Person Grips ..... SEBASTIAN LAM
JOHNATHAN LE
Grip ..... JOSUE SUAZO

Property Master ..... YUELIN ZHAO

Production Coordinator ..... ALYSSA ULRICH
2nd 2nd Assistant Directors ..... ASHLYNN ZURILGEN
MATTHEW NORMAN
Production Secretary ..... EMILY NOROVSAMBUU
Key Office Production Assistant ..... ALEX CHERRY
Office Production Assistants ..... KYLIE ANDERSON
KELLY CARITA FINN
CAREN "HALLI" LORENZATO
TIM MCQUAID
MELISSA SCICLUNA
Key Set Production Assistant ..... CHANDLER GHUMM

Set Production Assistants

CYLVANNA ELGADI
OSIRIS LARKIN
VICTOR PACHECO
ROGER ZAMBRANO
PAUL DURAN-LEMOS
MUNKHBAT NOROVSAMBUU
JOE VIZZINI

Assistant to Steak House ..... LAUREN GABREE

Studio Teachers ..... GUY FLINT
NICK DELGADO
ALBERT BARRIENTOS
Studio Teachers Provided by..... STELLA PACIFIC MANAGEMENT

Set Painter ..... DAN STEVENS

Production Accountant ..... HEATHER TODARO
Payroll Accountant ..... PHILLIP MEDRANO
First Accountant ..... JOE B. HALL

Transportation Coordinator ..... GENO HART
Transportation Captain..... JOHN BURISH
Transportation Co-Captain .... ALONZO "FONZI" COOK-SALDIVAR
Drivers..... MANUEL ANGUIANO
DONALD HAGER
TRENTON HARA
ALEJANDRO "ALEX" REYNOSO

Casting Assistants..... ALEXANDRA ALVAREZ
SKYLER ZURN
Casting Admin ..... JACLYN GONZALES
Extras Casting..... TIFFANY CAPRINE

Animal Coordinator ..... PERFORMING ANIMAL TROUPE

Health & Safety Manager ..... JY-AH MIN
Health & Safety Supervisor ..... DEVON EDWARDS
Health & Safety Coordinators ..... TINA HARTELL
STEVEN MOLLER
Health & Safety Officer ..... TEDDY WYNNE
Health & Safety Testing Assistants ..... JENNIFER FERNALD
ALLYSON BRAINARD SMITH

Health & Safety Monitors

SHAUN ALLEN
DAMIAN GORDON
JOSHUA NADIN
BEN WU
SHANA BELTON
CARLA JUAREZ
GABRIEL TOYA-MELENDEZ

Medics ..... GUNNER ALVES
ISAAC SALAZAR
Caterer ..... FULL MOON PICKLES & CATERING
Craft Service ..... TOSHA WILLIAMS

Music Supervisor..... LYNDSIE CHLOWITZ

Cello..... RO ROWAN
Score Mixing Engineer ..... HOTAE ALEXANDER JANG

Title and Credits ..... REAL BY FAKE
Dailies/Digital Intermediate ..... COLOR 7
Colorist ..... MARK SACHEN
Assistant Colorist..... RACHEL PEDROZA

The Filmmakers Wish to Thank:

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OLIVER LLORENTE HOROWITZ
ZULEMA URIARTE-ELIZALDE
KRISTEN PSINAKIS

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SVP, Music ..... KAYLIN FRANK
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Coordinator, Casting Administration ..... GENE FELIX
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Assistant, Marketing . . . . . CORA SEELMAN

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STACY BISSELL
TESSA BLAKE
LYNWEN BRENNAN
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Disney

THE LAST OF THE CHUPACABRAS

Written and Directed by ..... JESSICA MENDEZ SIQUEIROS
Produced by ..... NICOLE CRESPO
STEAK HOUSE
Executive Producers ..... JULIE ANN CROMMETT
MAHIN IBRAHIM
ALYSSA NAVARRO
CHRIS CARABALLO
JASON ALVIDREZ
ADAM NUSINOW
Director of Photography ..... MEENA SINGH
Production Designer ..... JONA TOCHET
Edited by ..... HECTOR PADILLA
Casting by ..... JESSICA MUNKS, CSA
MICHAEL MORLANI, CSA

Unit Production Manager ..... STEAK HOUSE
First Assistant Director ..... LISA CHU
Second Assistant Director ..... AMANDA "STEVIE" BOISSELLE
Costume Designer ..... LYNN OLLIE
Music by ..... RENEE GOUST

CAST

Chepa ..... MELBA MARTINEZ, PHD
Nainai ..... CICI LAU
Child on Bus ..... SEVEN TRUE-DIVINE PURNELL
Tour Guide ..... WILLIAM KNIGHT
Chupacabras Puppeteers ..... AMANDA MADDOCK
RONALD BINION
Nian Puppeteers ..... ROBIN WALSH
ADRIAN ROSE LEONARD

Puppets Created by ..... PUPPET HEAP

Associate Producer ..... CARLO FIORIO
Art Director ..... GARRETT LOWE
Assistant Art Director ..... ABE CHAN
Set Decorator ..... SARA ALIX
Lead Person ..... AARON MAGER
Set Dressers ..... RICH GOMEZ
SOFIA RIBEIRO
TREVOR TRIGGS
SHANE CHARLES SOURGOSE

Key Costumer ..... ASIA LEE EDWARDS

Makeup Dept. Head ..... TAMEKA ELLIOT
Hairstylist ..... ANGIE MAXIE

First Assistant Camera ..... BRYANT MARCONTEL
Second Assistant Camera ..... KELLY MITCHELL
KIERSTEN DIRKES
DAVID HOWARD
B Camera Operator ..... JEFF POWERS
Still Photographer ..... JOB GARCIA
Camera Loader ..... WILEY SCHOTT
Stop Motion Animation ..... TENNESSEE "TR" REID NORTON

Script Supervisor ..... LORI FRANKLIN-GARCIA
Sound Mixer ..... ADAM BOREL
Boom Operator ..... ANGEL REYES

Location Manager ..... HECTOR TINOCO
Assistant Location Manager ..... ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Environmental Steward ..... GALILEO PACIONI

Assistant Editor ..... JESUS "CHUY" ROSALES

Visual Effects Producer ..... JOEY BONANDER
Visual Effects Coordinator ..... RAVEN MIDKIFF

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A LUCASFILM LTD. COMPANY

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Visual Effects Producer ..... SHIVANI JHAVERI
Compositing Supervisor ..... TODD VAZIRI

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RINO GEORGE — TREVOR HAZEL
SHAWN MONAGHAN — MATTEO OLIVIERI-DANCEY
BRIAN SCHULTZ — MICHELLE REDMAN
SAM STEWART — KAITLYN WILLIAMS

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Visual Effects Production Accountant ..... PAM SINSHEIMER
Additional Visual Effects by ..... STEREO D

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Written by Jerry Goldsmith
Courtesy Of Walt Disney Records

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Disney

Disney LAUNCHPAD PRESENTS

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

DISNEY'S "LAUNCHPAD," streaming exclusively on Disney+ beginning May 28, is a collection of live-action shorts from a new generation of dynamic storytellers. Six filmmakers from underrepresented backgrounds were selected out of more than 1,100 applicants from all over the U.S. and provided with the opportunity to share their perspectives and creative visions that will show audiences what it means to be seen.

The goal of DISNEY'S "LAUNCHPAD" is to diversify the types of stories that are being told and to give access to those who have historically not had it. Inspired by life's journey, these first six shorts for Disney+ are based on the theme "Discover."

Each filmmaker was assigned executive mentors from the various studio brand units, including Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures Production, Walt Disney Animation Studios, Disney+, Lucasfilm, Marvel Studios and Pixar. Here's what some of them had to say about the Launchpad program:

"Launchpad was really an incredible experience, and as a mentor I feel so lucky to have been part of something that feels like there is actually a shift in culture and perspective at this company. I have learned so much and honestly feel that I was the mentee just as much as I was the mentor. It is something I hope that each and every development executive has the opportunity to be part of something that is dedicated and committed to bringing about genuine change within these antiquated institutions and systems. I learned that it is possible to go beyond the dialogue and to be part of the movement that is trying to move our company in a better direction."
—Karen Chau (Director of Development, Disney Branded Television)

"It has been an honor and a joy to participate in the Launchpad program with our inspiring group of directors and the committed team around them. Launchpad serves as an example of the power of inclusive storytelling and reinforces the fundamental importance of diverse voices whose stories must be seen and supported."
—Vanessa Morrison (President, Streaming, Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures Production)

"While I knew we were working with a group of talented filmmakers, I was struck by their unrelenting enthusiasm, optimism and entrepreneurialism, especially when faced with the challenges of making these films during a pandemic. These filmmakers have incredible vision and voice, and their passion is infectious. I'm grateful to have been a part of what I'm sure will be long, successful careers for all of our filmmakers."
—Rachel Yeung (Director, Production)

MAHIN IBRAHIM, Director of Disney's Diversity & Inclusion, Market, who oversees the "LAUNCHPAD" program, said, "This first group of shorts by these six gifted filmmakers took our breath away. They are moving, provocative and entertaining, and they each convey a unique perspective on living in America today and the things you learn about yourself and others when you follow your own path. I am excited to share them with you, and I look forward to welcoming a new group of filmmakers from underrepresented backgrounds for our next season of Disney's 'LAUNCHPAD.'"

Ibrahim was previously at Refinery29 in development/production and spent the majority of her career at Google and YouTube, where she helped run production programs with an emphasis on diversity and inclusion at its flagship studio for YouTube creators. In addition, she writes creative nonfiction, and holds an MFA in production from USC and a BA in mass communication and business administration from UC Berkeley.

PHILLIP YAW DOMFEH is the Senior Manager of Disney's "LAUNCHPAD" shorts Incubator and a writer, director and producer from Los Angeles, Calif.

Prior to joining The Walt Disney Studios, he served as an executive producer of the 2019 AT&T Mentorship Program. There, he worked alongside Emmy® Award winner Lena Waithe and Rishi Rajani to mentor underrepresented filmmakers and produce five short films starring Dascha Polanco, Loretta Devine and Rob Morgan.

His debut comedy short film, "Rudeboy's Restaurant," was financed by Little Ugly, Vimeo, Dolby Labs and Ghetto Film School through the 2019 Emerge! Filmmaker Lab Short Film Competition and premiered August 2020 as part of the American Black Film Festival 2020 Emerging Directors Showcase.

Prior to Emerge!, Phillip was a Comedy Finalist in the 2019/2020 ABC | Disney Writers Program and a Semi-Finalist in the 2018 Fox Writers Lab.

Submissions for the second season of Disney's "LAUNCHPAD," which will be based around the theme of "Connection" and will include a writers' track, will be accepted now through June 11, 2021: https://launchpad.disney.com/

SEASON ONE SHORTS

Written and Directed by **AQSA ALTAF**
Produced by LESLIE OWEN, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: SHANESSA KHAWAJA, JENNA QURESHI, CASH HERRERA, FAZEELAT ASLAM

Ameena, a Muslim Pakistani immigrant, wakes up on Eid to find out that she has to go to school. Homesick and heartbroken, she goes on a mission to make Eid a public-school holiday, and in the process reconnects with her older sister and embraces her new home, while her new home embraces her.

Los Angeles–based filmmaker **AQSA ALTAF** loves to capture moments that feel like they are stolen from everyday life with a cinematic edge. Being raised in Kuwait by Pakistani and Sri Lankan parents in a Muslim household, Aqsa is fascinated with telling stories that are diverse in nature and reflect on subject matters that are universal.

Aqsa graduated from USC School of Cinematic Arts. Her short film “One Small Step” has won many awards and played at the American Pavilion at the Cannes Film Festival 2019. It was also shortlisted for the BAFTA Student Film Awards.

She was nominated for the Young Director Award 2019 at Cannes Lions for her film, which she made under the mentorship of Werner Herzog.

She is currently developing a TV series based on a proof-of-concept film she made as well as her first feature project.

<u>DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT:</u>
I started writing “American Eid” because I always wanted to see a Disney film about Eid—a holiday so special to me as a Muslim that I never saw represented on mainstream media. I remember pondering as a little girl growing up in Kuwait why we don’t have stories about people who look like me and have a life like mine. Everything I watched educated me about a world that wasn’t the world I or anyone around me lived in. I also remember subconsciously concluding that maybe our stories were not worth the mainstream platform.

Retrospectively, thinking back at that scares me. To have those thoughts lingering in a young person is not only limiting but also corrosive. This is why “American Eid” is so important to me. When your culture, holiday, and traditions are celebrated on mainstream platform, it sends a message—it says you matter, your identity matters, your specificities are beautiful and worth being told.

The more I explored the film in development, the more I realized that the core heart of this film is about acceptance. Acceptance of your new home, which I myself had to do immigrating to the U.S. But it is also about your new home accepting you for who you are. It is a two-way street. Home is where you belong but it is also where you get to be you unapologetically.

Ever since I moved to the U.S., I spent every Eid without my family. I never got to travel back home during Eid because it always fell in the middle of a semester or a film project which made it impossible for me to take a week off to travel all the way across the world. I felt so alone during a holiday that I grew up counting down days to. Most of my colleagues and non-Muslim friends didn't even know what Eid was, what it stood for or what it signified. And ultimately what I didn't realize until I made this film is how much I had normalized not celebrating Eid with my family, not taking the days off for it, and not bringing more awareness to it.

"American Eid" is about Ameena trying to reconnect with her sister by trying to keep Eid alive in their new lives, and she ends up learning that some things in life, like her sister, will change and that's okay, but ultimately what matters is that you stand for what you believe in and celebrate you for who you are.

I hope "American Eid" starts a conversation about acknowledging holidays from different cultures and religions, about why it's important to do so, and why we as a society need to make the effort to educate ourselves.

DINNER IS SERVED

Directed by **HAO ZHENG**
Written by G. WILSON & HAO ZHENG
Produced by SHINCY LU, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: QI SUN, BRIANA LIU, BEN WANG, HARRY JARVIS, RAY WISE, DeJEAN BROWN

A Chinese student at an elite U.S. boarding school realizes excellence is not enough when he tries out for a leadership position no international student has ever applied for.

HAO ZHENG studied at Emerson College (film production) and AFI (directing). He is a recent Student Academy Award–winning director transitioned from being a professional actor in popular Chinese films and TV shows. With short films getting international recognition including Show Me Shorts New Zealand (Best International Film Award), AT&T Film Award, Nowness Awards, Short Shorts Tokyo, Aspen Shortsfest among more than 100 film festivals, he is developing a range of multicultural projects in both China and the U.S.

Recently, Hao became a 2021 Forbes 30 Under 30 Honoree (Hollywood & Entertainment), 2020 HBOAccess Directing Fellow and a 2019 First International Film Festival Directing Lab Fellow.

<u>DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:</u>
In the fall of 2009, I started studying at a private boarding school in Long Island, New York. As a 15-year-old boy grew up in China, I never thought that one day I would become a minority in a completely different world where I would feel alienated, lonely and unnoticed. I desperately wanted to change my situation and be seen by others. In my mind, the only way to do so was to try out for the leadership positions, especially the Maitre D' position, a role no international student has ever tried before due to its very nature of having to present a monologue in front of everyone at dinner and remembering everyone's name. As someone who often got laughed at for having

an accent when speaking English, I took out my dictionary, recorded my lines and repeated them over and over again to make sure there were no flaws.

However, despite my belief that hard works pay off, a mispronunciation during my tryout got me laughed at again. Even though I still managed to keep my smile, my mind went completely blank and I started making more mistakes until the moment I felt I would never get the position. I felt angry, not because I made mistakes but because I couldn't do anything when my accent got laughed at. Having nothing to lose, a strange idea came to my mind. I walked to the front, rang the bell and got everyone's attention. Then I started singing with my full passion in Chinese as a way to rebel. It's weird, I know. But for some reason, I felt happy. And for a brief moment, I didn't care about what others think and didn't try to get anyone's validation. I was just being me.

"Dinner Is Served" is a film that is full of youthful energy, pain and happiness. We all have similar experiences of getting into a new environment, forcing ourselves to fit in and trying to prove ourselves. However, what we actually need is not to prove ourselves but to simply find who we actually are and to be ourselves. This is the topic "Dinner Is Served" tries to explore. I hope that when you see this character full of persistence and energy, you will also see your own youth.

Written and Directed by **ANN MARIE PACE**
Produced by GENEVA FAYE, MELODY SANDOVAL, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: KEYLA MONTERROSO MEJIA, CRISTELA ALONZO, GRACE SONG, OLIVIA SULLIVENT

Val Garcia, a Mexican American teen who is half human/half vampire, has had to keep her identity a secret from both worlds. But when her human best friend shows up at her monster-infested school, she has to confront her truth, her identity and herself.

ANN MARIE PACE is an employee of The Walt Disney Company. She is a writer/director raised in Tennessee and based in Los Angeles. Growing up Mexican American and bisexual, she is drawn to stories of identity and discovering your inner truth when you don't just fit one box. Raised in a family of anthropologists, Ann Marie puts an immense amount of care and consideration into being authentic to characters, their culture and their truths. She tells stories from multicultural perspectives to help create bridges of understanding. She received her MFA in directing at UCLA. Her thesis film, "Beyond the Gate," shot in the Brazilian Amazon, won first place in the DGA Student Film Awards Latino Category, Best Student Film at the Brazil International Film Festival, and was a Caucus Foundation Grant Winner.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

Being in between identifies is something I know a lot about. My mother is Mexican and my father is white, so culturally I grew up with a mix of traditions. I also grew up in a small town in Tennessee where there weren't many other kids at school who looked like me. I learned quickly that in order to fit in there, I had to hide my Mexican side. And at the same time, I also felt not Mexican enough. I struggled with Spanish and couldn't speak to my Mexican grandma, who lived right next door, for the first 20 years of my life. When I finally learned, I almost cried realizing how I might never have known how hilarious (and inappropriate) my grandma's jokes are.

And then there was a huge part of my identity I felt too ashamed to accept until much later in life, my bisexuality. Once again, it felt as if I was in between two identities. Too gay to be straight, too straight to be gay, and too ashamed to accept my bisexuality fully.

This struggle of duality is what I wanted to explore with Val. But I wanted to tell this story in a way that still celebrates the very things about her that I was made to feel ashamed of growing up. That's why it felt important to me that Val's Mexican and queer parts of herself are normalized and celebrated, and instead her complex with identity revolves around being half vampire. I've always felt the monster story is essentially an outsider's story of wanting to be understood and accepted but being feared by those who don't know enough about you. Which is something anyone who has ever felt like an outsider can relate to.

At times, when we belong to multiple identities, it can ironically feel like we don't belong anywhere. That's what Val's journey is about, as she discovers what became a profound realization in my own life—that the most important thing is to belong to yourself.

Written and Directed by **STEFANIE ABEL HOROWITZ**
Produced by SYDNEY FLEISCHMANN, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: OTMARA MARRERO, DASH McCLOUD, GREG WORSWICK, MIKE MILLAN

Avalon's not ready to process the loss of her mother, but when she's put in charge of a 4-year-old for one night, she finds more comfort than she ever could have expected.

STEFANIE ABEL HOROWITZ directed theater for a decade before pivoting to film. Her second short film, "Sometimes, I Think About Dying," premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival, traveled the world on the Sundance Shorts Tour, garnered Abel Horowitz the Future Filmmaker Award from Palm Springs International Film Festival and was shortlisted for an Academy Award®. She is an alum of the 2019 New Voices Sundance Lab as well as a member of Lincoln Center Directors Lab. Her essay "He's Your Destiny. Just Be Patient." was published in The New York Times' Modern Love 2019 column.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

My parents are 69 and 70. Neither one is happy about it. And when I look at their faces, I see my grandparents. My mother's skin is beginning to sag below her chin and my father's lips are so reminiscent of his father's I feel like I'm looking at him. And they are grandparents, to my nephew, who is turning 3 soon. They're entering their final chapter of life. They're talking about retiring, about life slowing down, about watching the light change.

And I worry about myself dying more often than I used to. The universality of death, the absolute inevitability of it–it's on my mind.

When I was in my early 20s I babysat for a 3-year-old. Babysitting was new to me; I'd had other kinds of teenage jobs and wasn't used to being a caregiver. But he was incredibly smart and incredibly sweet. He knew bubbles were delicate and he loved with abandon.

One time he pretended to shoot me dead and I found myself explaining to him what death meant. That he'd never get to see me again. That I wouldn't come to babysit him anymore. That I would be gone. I watched his face change, his heart break just a little.

At that age children can't fully understand death. They can't understand concepts like permanence and universality. But when I told him I wouldn't be able to come see him anymore he certainly understood that. And, I don't know, I always felt like I had broken some little piece of innocence in him that he would never get back. A piece that has to break in all of us and leaves only the sad truth that we will all one day be gone and we will never come back.

In this movie a little boy learns about death while his babysitter is confronted with her own sense of loss. But what are kids if not the ultimate reminder that we have so much to live for?

THE LAST OF THE CHUPACABRAS

Written and Directed by **JESSICA MENDEZ SIQUEIROS**
Produced by NICOLE CRESPO, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: MELBA MARTINEZ, PhD, CICI LAU, SEVEN TRUE-DIVINE PURNELL, WILLIAM KNIGHT

In a world where culture has nearly ceased to exist, one lone Mexican American struggling to carry on her traditions unknowingly summons a dark and ancient creature to protect her.

JESSICA MENDEZ SIQUEIROS is a Chicana writer/director of mixed indigenous Sonoran and European ancestry seeking to normalize complex and authentic narratives about the Southwest Mexican American community through film. Her short films have screened at over 75 festivals, including Palm Springs, Seattle, Cleveland, Hamptons and the Los Angeles Latino Film Festival. They have garnered an Audience Pick from Palm Springs ShortFest, the KidsEye Grand Prize for Best Live Action Short from Flickers Rhode Island Film Festival, Best Narrative Short (Comedy) from Cinequest, among other awards. Selected as a director mentee in the AT&T Hello Lab Mentorship Program, she directed "Adeline, The Great" under the guidance of Lena Waithe and Rishi Rajani.

Her first feature film, "Reforma," which delves into the colorful, complicated world of a young Latina woman

in La Reforma (the Tucson, Ariz., projects) in the 1960s, is in development with the support of the Sundance Feature Film Program, and the recipient of the 2021 Latinx Fellowship. She will also participate in the second class of Powderkeg Fuse helmed by Paul Feig & Lisa Fischer.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

As a little girl, I would constantly tug at my mother's sleeve in Mexican markets. "What does that mean?," I'd ask with my finger thrust out at every object we passed. Even as a proud Mexican woman, my mom had been taught from a young age that her language was a burden, that there was no need to speak it outside of her home, that she needed to be more American.

So, I never learned.

"The Last of the Chupacabras" is a vibrant & darkly comedic visualization of the dangers of this type of mentality when looking at our individual cultures. While the Earth grows more global in its mindset by the day, it is important that we stop and take a moment to celebrate what makes us unique.

Chepa's journey to realizing she is not alone is one that I have experienced myself. One where I have discovered others, just like me, from every race, ethnicity and economic status that have lost some part of their identity.

The film is a celebration of our broken hearts coming together to rekindle our heritages.

Written and Directed by **MOXIE PENG**
Produced by CARVER DISERENS, STEAK HOUSE
Cast: KALO MOSS, CHING YIN RYAN HU, EVAN LAI, BRIAN YANG, LYNN CHEN, DANNI WANG

When Gabriel, a 7-year-old Chinese kid who loves ballet, becomes friends with Rob, another Chinese kid from school, Rob's dad gets suspicious about Gabriel's feminine behavior and decides to intervene.

MOXIE PENG is a writer and director from Hunan, China. As a queer non-binary filmmaker, Moxie's subjects are often the working class, immigrant ethnic minorities and folks in the queer community, and they often address intersectionality among them. They started filmmaking in Beijing and now live in New York City and Los Angeles. Their shorts have been screened at NewFest, Asian American International Film Festival, Cleveland International Film Festival and more. Moxie recently graduated from the Filmmaking MFA program at NYU class of 2020, and is developing their debut feature.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

Acceptance is the first step towards healing.

"The Little Prince(ss)" is based on a true story of acceptance that happened to me when I was a child. Growing up in China, I was constantly questioned about my "gender performance" as I explored my queer and non-binary identity. Like Gabriel from the story, I often got messages from people when they detected my femininity—rejection, neglect and a certain homophobia and transphobia. One day, my friend's dad came to our family's dinner table and paid us an "unexpected" visit, which ultimately changed my life. Later, it sparked the inspiration for the story of "The Little Prince(ss)."

As I worked on the story, more layers of reality started to unfold. A beautiful friendship and possible attraction between two Chinese American kids appeared; the two identities, Chinese American and gender non-binary, started to interact, overlap and blossom. Through the unfiltered minds of children, we see something precious, something they can see better than us: we've got to love our friends with an open heart and accept them for who they are.

At the same time, biased judgments and phobias from a traumatic adult world can disrupt and damage. Although it's been years since the incident happened to me, my healing has never stopped, and now I'm bringing the power of healing to others. I want to tell this story to every queer and trans child out there who is experiencing the turbulence and uneasiness of being different. I want to tell them that it is okay to be different and they should be very gentle with themselves. I hope that they will learn to be proud of who they are, because self-acceptance and self-love are generators for the power within us that no one can take away, and it's what makes us magical. It's what makes us royal, like a true prince(ss), since the beginning of time.

SCORING DISNEY'S "LAUNCHPAD" SEASON ONE SHORTS

To score their short films, half of the filmmakers chose composers with whom they'd worked previously, whereas others were open to new collaborations. Hao Zheng ("Dinner Is Served"), Jessica Mendez Siqueiros ("The Last of the Chupacabras") and Moxie Peng ("The Little Prince(ss)") fall into the former category, Aqsa Altaf ("American Eid"), Ann Marie Pace ("Growing Fangs") and Stefanie Abel Horowitz ("Let's Be Tigers") into the latter.

Xueran Chen, who earlier had scored Zheng's short "The Chef," earned his master's degree in Scoring for Film, Television and Video Games from the Berklee School of Music. Following an internship with Andrew Gross, in which he assisted in the scoring of the television film "The Secret Santa," he opened his own music studio in Los Angeles and has worked on many Chinese and American TV series, features and shorts, including "Princess Agents," "Love Actually," "Guardian," "Desert Sea, " "Speed," "Martial Universe," "Bodies at Rest" and "Running for Grace."

Renee Goust worked with Mendez Siqueiros on the filmmaker's previous short, "Pozole." With a unique Latinx sound, she had a clear vision of what she wanted to bring to "Chupacabras" and used such authentic regional Mexican and Latin American instruments as the leona, quijada, jarana, requinto jarocho and zapateado.

Peng first teamed with Asian American composer Rob Rusli on their 2018 short "Melt." Rusli is responsible for the scores of such independent features as "Test Pattern," "Empty by Design" and "Moko Jumbie," as well as an episode of the Hulu series "Your Attention Please" and numerous shorts, including "Bambirak."

Altaf's dream was to work with Emmy®-nominated composer Siddhartha Khosla, who composed the scores

of such feature films and TV series as “This Is Us,” “Beats,” “The Sounding,” “Fat Camp,” “Looking for Alaska,” “Runaways” and “Love, Victor.” A conversation between the two was arranged and, to her amazement, he agreed to score “American Eid.”

Powerhouse producer/GRAMMY®-nominated songwriter/mix engineer Adrianne Gonzalez (“AG”) composed the score for “Growing Fangs” and wrote and performs the original song used in the opening and end credits, “Medio Vivo.” She previously scored the documentary “Eat Drink Laugh: The Story of the Comic Strip” as well as the short films “Café Attitude” and “My Love,” and has written and performed songs for such TV series and films as “The Old Guard,” “Paranormal Activity 4,” “A Family Man,” “Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw,” “Grey’s Anatomy,” “The Good Doctor,” “Vida,” “Elementary” and “Riverdale.”

Prior to scoring “Let’s Be Tigers,” Tangelene Bolton was already a part of the Disney Shorts family as the composer of the Short Circuit film “Just a Thought.” She’s scored dozens of shorts and has contributed additional music to the scores of such feature films, TV films and series as the upcoming “Pups Alone,” “All Rise,” “Shimmer and Shine,” “Brainchild,” “No Escape Room,” “The Art of Murder,” “60 Days In,” “House of the Witch” and “Altitude.” She’s a member of The Composers Diversity Collective and The Alliance for Women Film Composers.

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